

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 211218Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6027

S E C R E T PARIS 01681

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PASS DOD WASHDC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: XA, MOPS, FR, SF

SUBJECT: AIR FIELD SURVEY

REF: STATE 9063

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: EMBASSY WELCOMES DEVELOPMENTS TO SPEED OMEGA. C-5 DELIVERY SHOULD BE DISCUSSED BETWEEN U.S. AND FRENCH PROJECT OFFICERS. ASSUMING THEY AGREE TO IDEA, SUFFICIENT TIME MUST BE ALLOWED FOR EMBASSY TO OBTAIN FRENCH CLEARANCE FOR AIR FIELD SURVEY. DEPARTMENT SHOULD INSURE THAT SURVEY IS LIMITED TO SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS OMEGA PROJECT.
END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY WELCOMES ANY DEVELOPMENTS THAT WILL SPEED UP OMEGA DELIVERY SCHEDULE AND THAT ARE AGREEABLE WITH GOF.

3. WE ARE NOT AWARE OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN USN PROJECT OFFICER AT COMNAVELECSYSCOM AND FRENCH PROJECT OFFICER TOUCHING ON IDEA OF C-5 SPECIAL AIRLIFT SUPPORT MISSION DESCRIBED REFTTEL. THIS IDEA SHOULD BE DISCUSSED INITIALLY BY THE TWO PROJECT OFFICERS BEFORE ANY ACTIONS ARE SCHEDULED. IF SUBJECT HAS BEEN DISCUSSED, AND FRENCH
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PROJECT OFFICER APPROVES IDEA ON BEHALF OF FRENCH

AUTHORITIES, WE WOULD APPRECIATE CABLE REPORT OF THAT EXCHANGE.

4. ASSUMING U.S. AND FRENCH PROJECT OFFICERS CONCUR THAT C-5 AIRLIFT DESCRIBED IN PARA 2 OF REFTEL IS AGREE-ABLE METHOD OF DELIVERY, WE WILL INITIATE PRIORITY CLEARANCE REQUEST AS SUGGESTED IN PARA 5 REFTEL, SUBJECT TO TWO COMMENTS. FIRST, FRENCH REQUIRE AT LEAST 30 DAYS TO PROCESS CLEARANCE REQUEST. THEREFORE, FRENCH PERMISSION FOR TRAVEL OF TWO OFFICERS IN FIRST WEEK OF FEBRUARY SEEMS UNLIKELY. IN ANY EVENT, WE WILL OBTAIN QUICKEST FRENCH REACTION POSSIBLE ONCE WE HAVE PRECISE DETAILS FROM 437 MAW AND GO-AHEAD FROM DEPARTMENT. SECOND, WE WOULD CAUTION AGAINST POSSIBLE EFFORT TO COLLECT INTELLIGENCE DATA ON CAPABILITY OF LA REUNION TO HANDLE C-5/C-141 FOR PURPOSES UNRELATED TO OMEGA STATION. WHILE REFTEL CONTAINS NO SUGGESTION THAT THIS MIGHT BE ANCILLARY PURPOSE OF VISIT, EMBASSY MUST UNDERLINE HAZARDS OF THIS SORT OF ACTIVITY IN TERMS OF RISK TO INCREASED TEMPO OF FRENCH-AMERICAN POLITICAL/MILITARY COOPERATION. WE LOOK TO DEPARTMENT TO INSURE THAT ANY SUCH IDEAS WILL BE FULLY WEIGHED AGAINST SERIOUS POTENTIAL RISKS BEFORE AUTHORIZING AIR FIELD SURVEY DESCRIBED REFTEL.

5. GIVEN SENSITIVE NATURE OF THIS CABLE, WE HAVE LIMITED INFO ADDRESSEES. DEPARTMENT REPEAT AS APPROPRIATE.
RUSH

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED DOD.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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